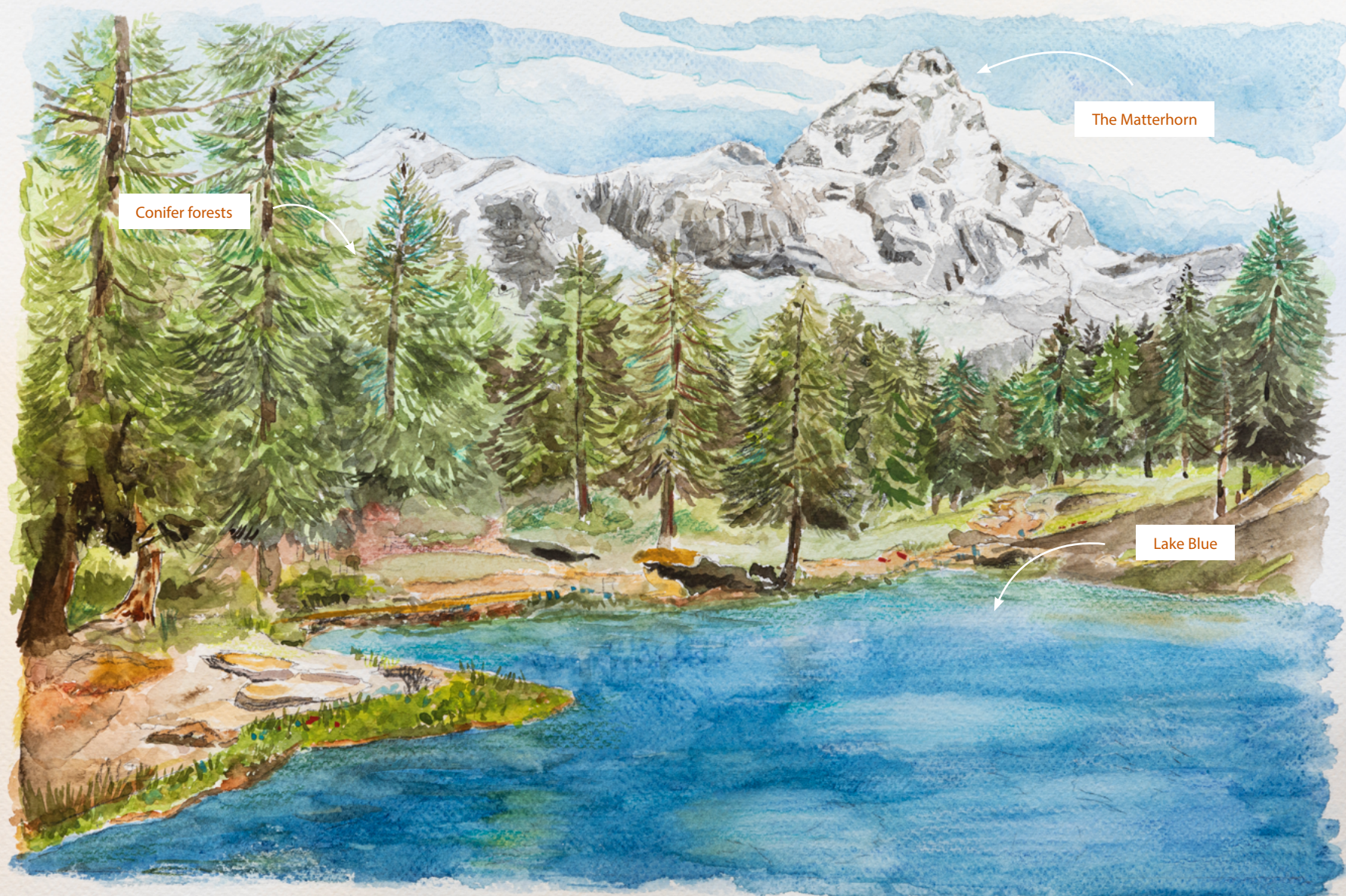




# BREUIL-CERVINIA AND VALTOURNENCHE

AOSTA VALLEY



Conifer forests

The Matterhorn

Lake Blue



## AOSTA VALLEY

# BREUIL-CERVINIA AND VALTOURNENCHE

### AMONG GODS AND HEROES

Now you're here after your long wanderings, let your fearful gaze dare to rise and caress that heart-wrenching silhouette that has condemned and claimed so many lives. But for each life it took, one it consigned to eternal greatness; so many have replied to its mute, arcane calling and paid in sweat and blood.

With its mantle of amazement and wonder, the Matterhorn - that undisputed lord and noble pride of the Alps - not only manages to bewitch the lionhearted but all those who set eyes upon it. That's why you'll soon feel an irresistible urge to conquer stir within you...

Find full updated information on sites of interest (opening times, details, initiatives...) by visiting [www.lovevda.it](http://www.lovevda.it) »



## UNDYING GLORY

Trust me, with difficulty you'll forget this valley once you've laid eyes on it. It's one of those places that stay in your heart, whose memory lives on beyond time and space, chasing centuries and millennia, passing from mouth to mouth until it becomes legend. This is a hidden corner among nature's offshoots where it's easy to confuse what belongs to the earth and what belongs to the sky, especially when admiring him - the great Matterhorn - whose dizzying silhouette pierces the clouds and leads the way to unexplored paths in the sky.

This intriguing and enigmatic giant of a mountain, with its proud bearing and stormy look, resembles an immense, lethal predator intent on ploughing an ocean of clouds with its granite fin. The most legendary pages written in mountaineering history concern this peak - full of ambition, sacrifice, tragedies and acts of courage.

Although the very presence of the Matterhorn would justify the journey, perhaps you'll be surprised to discover that in this valley, Mother Nature didn't stop at one masterpiece but decided to fill it with an incredible number of wonders. So we have lakes dabbled with clouds that reflect silver stars

resembling diamonds, and glittering palaces hewn from ice on which crystal cableways parade, ready to carry you to the top of the world.

Slightly below, luxuriant and fragrant conifer woods, verdant pastures and joyful meadows give way to frothy streams, gloomy caves and roaring waterfalls whose music blurs with the noisy call of marmots and the ibex's soft patter.

Here and there small chapels perched on rock warmly welcome mountain pilgrims, while handfuls of villages belonging to a solemn past overlook imposing feats of engineering that are able to

change the fate of mountain tourism forever. A form of tourism that over time has made Cervinia one of the world's most renowned tourist destinations, but also the site of scientific and sporting achievements that have entrusted the town and its residents to immortal glory.

# *Bonjour, I'm Maurice, your guide!*

Welcome to the Matterhorn!

What, you'd like to go on an excursion but don't know where to start?

Well, today's your lucky day – let me introduce myself, I'm Maurice, an Alpine guide and I'll happily show you around this enchanting valley with its triumph of ropes, crampons and incurable passion for the mountains!



For over a century, the Cervino Association of Alpine Guides, founded in 1865, has been undertaking expeditions all over the world. Many of its members have become legendary figures in mountaineering history.

By the way, can you see those people down there? They're setting out on an ascent with my colleague, while others are getting ready to tackle a via ferrata.

Are you itching to try, too? So, follow me, a super great adventure is awaiting us!

ALPINE  
GUIDE



9



*Maurice*  
your guide



Night illumination of the Matterhorn



# NOT TO BE MISSED

SKIING ALL YEAR ROUND, LAKE BLUE,  
THE GREAT MATTERHORN BALCONY,  
ALPINE CROSSING, THE MATTERHORN  
WEEK



NOT TO BE MISSED

## SKIING ALL YEAR ROUND

ON THE SNOW, EVEN IN AUGUST

What if skiing wasn't exclusively a winter pursuit? In fact, you can ski on Plateau Rosà, that awesome tongue of ice lying at an altitude of 3,883 metres throughout the year, even in summer.

It's the icing on the cake of a ski area boasting 360 km of runs and an international connection to Switzerland. Not only can it justly lay claim to being the highest in the Alps but also one of Europe's most extraordinary domaine skiabiles, offering hundreds of different runs that vary in difficulty, plus countless off-piste tracks and no less than 59 lifts - there to enjoy 365 days a year!



« Skiing in front of the Matterhorn  
Cervinia Valtournenche



## LAKE BLUE

BEAUTY CALLS BEAUTY



The adjectives “limpid” and “crystalline” are often misused. They’re convenient for describing lakes, even when they are actually murky and impenetrable. For once the definition hits the mark: after all, where else could the Matterhorn, that mountain of otherworldly charm, choose to admire itself than in Lake Blue – a body of water that’s equally magnificent and immortal?

This liquid gem the colour of the sky is a shimmering mantle so pure and transparent that it reflects volatile clouds, gnarled trees, snow-clad peaks...and even your own astonished face as you stand there pondering its beauty.

The Matterhorn and Lake Blue »  
Cervinia





NOT TO BE MISSED

## THE GREAT MATTERHORN BALCONY

A THRILL AT EVERY STEP

Man strives to construct elaborate buildings when nature already provides all that he needs, even viewpoints over the most panoramic spots in the world. This is what will go through your mind when hiking along the Great Matterhorn Balcony, a loop of about 70 km split into steps with overnight stops in villages along the route.



It's a magnificent trek among lakes, meadows and woodlands, not to mention some of the most amazing spots in the valley, while embracing from afar the proud silhouette of a mountain the mountaineering world considers a legend.

« E-bike excursion

# MATTERHORN ALPINE CROSSING

TOWARDS INFINITY

From Plateau Rosa's 3,458 metres to Klein Matterhorn's 3,821: in autumn 2022 the futuristic tri-cable gondola defined as the highest crossing in the Alps will be opened connecting Italy and Switzerland.



The panoramic crossing will take an hour and cover a height gain of 4,000 metres in cabins with heated seats, a glass floor and glittering, crystal-sparkled windows. All around lies a sea of shiny snow dotted with granite cliffs dominated by the heart-wrenching outline of that supreme ice pyramid - the Matterhorn.

Alpine Crossing »  
Cervinia - Zermatt





NOT TO BE MISSED

## THE MATTERHORN WEEK

### THE MOUNTAINS IN TRIUMPH

A whole week dedicated to the Matterhorn, the brave men who have made mountaineering history and those who still today play the leading role in bold and trailblazing ascents.

Seven days of full immersion into mountain culture – from flora to traditional handicraft, courses on climbing, skiing and snowboarding, via ferratas and paragliding, and lastly excursions to conquer 4,000 metres. All in the presence of some of the most eminent figures from the international sports world, but which also features literary meetings, film previews and music events.



« Folk music concert



Pessey Alpine pastures

# A DAY, A WEEKEND, A WEEK

## HOW TO ORGANISE YOUR VISIT

With so much to see and do in Breuil-Cervinia and Valtournenche the temptation to stay a few days longer is almost irresistible.

Where to go? What to see? Here's some advice on how to get the most out of your holiday and turn it into a genuine travel itinerary. You can customize the recommended itineraries - feel free to include or remove any visits according to your time schedule, interests and spur-of-the-moment decisions!

24  
HOURS

1 day

48  
HOURS

2 days

168  
HOURS

1 week

Centre at Christmastime »  
Cervinia



RECOMMENDED VISITS

# BREUIL-CERVINIA AND VALTOURNENCHE IN ONE DAY

## DAY ONE



1 Summer

Start the morning with a cable car ride up to Plateau Rosà (1A), a perennial glacier offering all-year skiing, and from here admire the extraordinary mountain vista.

Continue with an interesting visit to the Museum of Work (1B), then hire a guide to explore a crevasse.

After lunch at a high altitude hut, enjoy a hike to Cime Bianche (1C), Plan Maison (1D) or Lake Goillet (1E). On the return journey, stop off at Lake Blue (1F).



2 Winter

Devote a day to snow sports: if skiing is not for you, then enjoy an exciting snowshoe excursion into the countryside (2A), otherwise depart from Breuil-Cervinia or Valtournenche and go to Plateau Rosà Glacier (2B), where you'll find elevation drops of over 2,000 metres and a range of runs varying in difficulty, the higher part of which are surrounded by peaks of unrivalled beauty while, further down, they are immersed in conifer woods.

It's certainly worth descending famous "Reine Blanche" piste (2C), one of Europe's longest and most spectacular.



RECOMMENDED VISITS

# BREUIL-CERVINIA AND VALTOURNENCHE IN A WEEKEND

## DAY TWO

3

Summer

Depart from the village of Cheneil (3A) and head towards Colle di Chamois (3B), along an evocative walk in view of the Grandes Murailles and the Matterhorn. On reaching enchanting Lake Lod (3C), stop for lunch and then descend to Chamois (3D).

Having visited the town, take the ski lift up to Colle Clavalité (3E) then, on your return to Cheneil (3A), stop for some whipped cream or savour a locally-sourced aperitif at Champlève (3F) or Laviel (3G).

4

Winter

Treat yourself to a ski trip in the Swiss International Ski Area of Zermatt (4A), and snap at the chance to visit the old town centre (4B) either on foot or by taking the convenient electric shuttle bus. After lunch, catch Europe's highest train to the summit of Gornergrat (4C) or enjoy several hours' skiing in Sunnega/Rothorn ski area (4D).

Return by cable car from Klein Matterhorn (4E) and round off with a visit to the panoramic terrace and incredible ice cave.





# BREUIL-CERVINIA E VALTOURNENCHE IN A WEEK

## 5 MORE DAYS

1

### Nature

Wondrous sights and marvels

Duca degli Abruzzi Hut (**1A**), Luigi Amedeo di Savoia Hut (**1B**), Gouffre des Busserailles (**1C**), Lake Cignana (**1D**), Lake Loz (**1E**).

2

### Outdoors / summer

The proud beauty of the mountains

Golf in Cervinia (**2A**), Gorbeillon via ferrata (**2B**), hike to the Church of the Alpine soldiers of Monte Cervino Battalion (**2C**), nature walk (**2D**), ascent to Breithorn (**2E**).

3

### Culture and traditions

A glimpse of bygone life

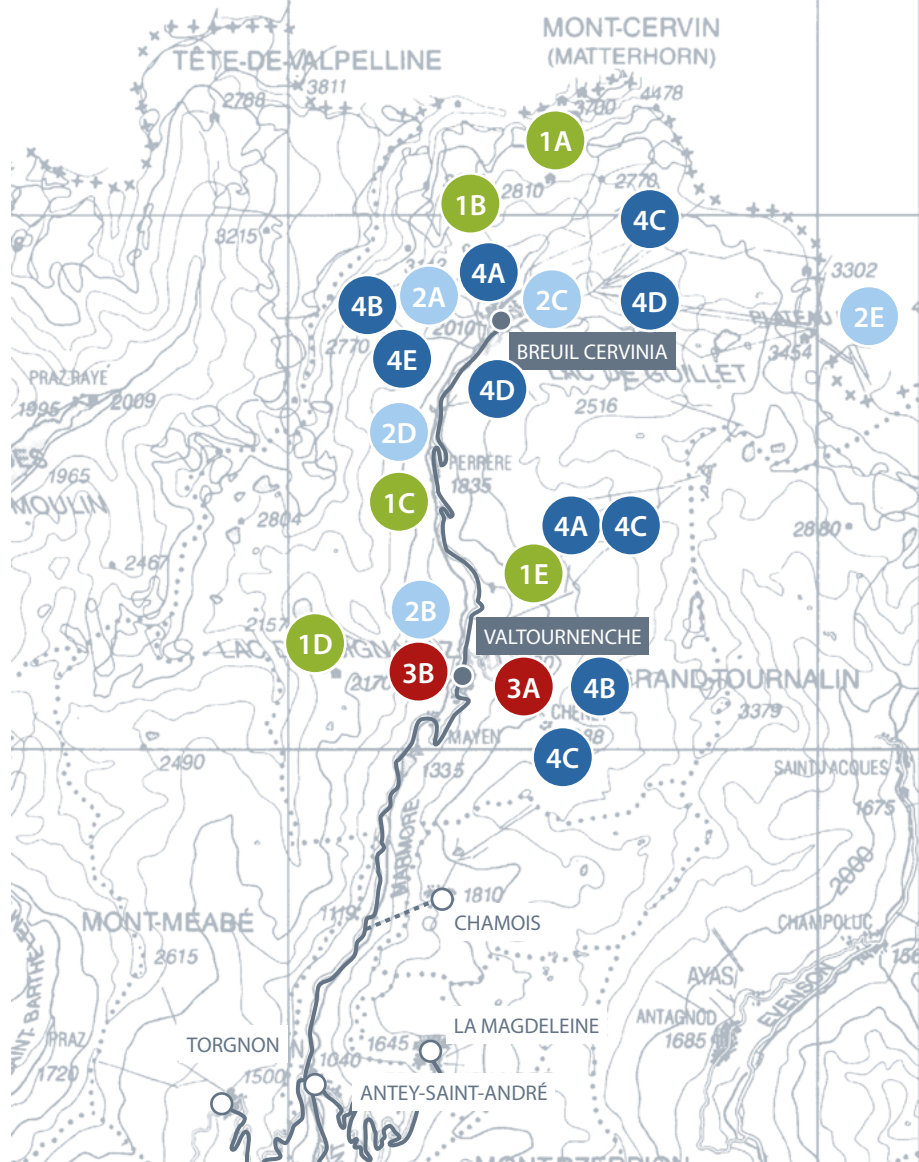
Village of Cretaz (**3A**), Musée de l'Alpage (**3B**).

4

### Outdoor / winter

The irresistible appeal of snow

Snowshoe outings (**4A**), cross-country skiing (**4B**), ski touring (**4C**), ice karting and snowmobiles (**4D**), dog sledding (**4E**).

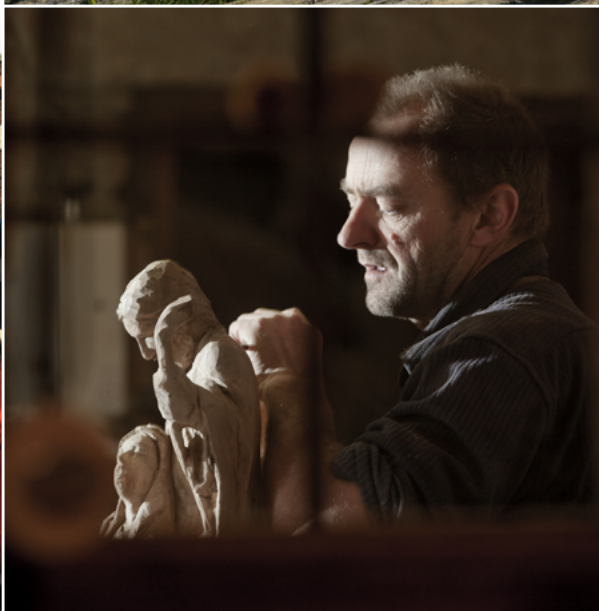




Excursion to Breuil-Cervinia

# THEMATIC FOCUS

NATURE, OUTDOOR, FOOD AND WINE,  
CULTURE AND TRADITIONS,  
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



# UNSPOILT SITES

## SUBLIME APPARITIONS

Nature has modelled few things with such refinement as the “Gran Becca” (the Matterhorn). Its sharp and alluring shape draws everyone’s attention, particularly from its favourite valley.

The Matterhorn is not the only striking feature in this land kissed by perennial ice and the fragrance of larch trees: here you’ll come across sapphire lakes resembling the eyes of a god, meadows cupped by the stony hands of mountains and woods traversed by sunny footpaths, which alternate with dull peaks and meadows strewn with a thousand flower confetti...

Spring blooming »  
Cervinia



## JEAN ANTOINE CARREL FOOTPATH AND PERRÈRES/ PROMORON TRAIL

Follow the trail named after the first Italian to summit the Matterhorn and reach historical Duca degli Abruzzi hut at Oriondè. If you prefer shorter hikes, then go deep into conifer woods and among ibex towards Promoron, where a delicious picnic awaits you.

BREUIL-CERVINIA



## LAKES CIGNANA AND GOILLET

Two manmade lakes: the former is the largest in Valtourneche – a turquoise gem encircled by emerald shores, the latter is a sky of blue water reflecting a snow-white diamond – the Matterhorn.

BREUIL & VALT.



## KLEIN MATTERHORN ICE CAVE

A tunnel dug into the ice among iridescent sculptures and sparkling veins: be prepared to explore the highest ice cave in Europe.

BREUIL-CERVINIA



## GOUFFRE DES BUSSERAILLES

Descend into the bowels of this spectacular ravine and let the echo of your footsteps blend with the thundering roar of an indomitable waterfall.

VALTOURNECHE

## CHENEIL

A delightful village nestling amongst verdant meadows, placid mountains and gurgling streams that can only be reached on foot or by lift.

VALTOURNECHE



# PURE ENERGY

NEVER TIRE OF GETTING TIRED

When it comes to sport, few valleys can hold a candle to Valtournenche: not only because Cervinia Valtournenche is the undeniable birth place of mountaineering and where this sport took its first steps before setting out along that glorious global route, but because this area offers an enviable range of outdoor pursuits.

You can rest assured that carabiners, mountain bikes, snowshoes and skis will become your best friends, keeping you company in an endless number of challenges that harness athletic prowess and spirit of adventure, technical performance and adrenaline rushes...

Biker »  
Cervinia



## FREE CLIMBING

Climbing is compulsory in such a vertical world: artificial and natural walls, bolted walls, indoor walls and crags... Grab your harness and chalk, the mountain will deal with the rest!

VALTOURNEICHE



## CERVINO BIKE PARK

Load your bike onto the lift, travel to the top then hurtle down amazingly steep paths, enduro tracks and cross-country trails. If you're a beginner then take a guided tour or MTB lessons.

BREUIL-CERVINIA

## SNOWPARK

Covering an area of more than 40,000 m, it's one of Italy's longest snowparks and open on the glacier throughout summer. It's a freeriders' paradise where they can let loose, practising tricks on rails, ramps and kickers to the sound of good music.

BREUIL-CERVINIA



## HELI SKIING

An unexplored, virgin-white world waiting in surreal silence to be carved by skis. If you're a fan of heli skiing then an off-piste descent at the foot of the Matterhorn is a must.

BREUIL & VALT



## CROSS-COUNTRY

Lose yourself along the 3 km trails that embrace an enchanting wall of mountains at Cervinia, or glide along sparkling loops that wend their way through the woods and glades of Champlève at Valtournenche.

BREUIL & VALT.



## AIRBOARD

A futuristic sledge allowing you to sail down the snow at super speeds: enjoy an exhilarating descent on your airboard and conquer the air with some unimaginable tricks!

BREUIL-CERVINIA



## ICE KARTING AND SNOWMOBILING

The roar of engines makes even the ice tremble along the highest ice kart track in Europe! After racing your friends, treat yourself to a snowmobile ride out into the woods.

BREUIL-CERVINIA



## SLEDDOG

Learn all the mountain mushers' secrets then set off at the helm of a sled pulled by fluffy huskies with ice-cold eyes.

BREUIL-CERVINIA





## SNOWSHOEING

Snow-laden paths and wonder-packed sights: snowshoe excursions amidst crystal lakes and hidden woodlands await you at Breuil-Cervinia.

BREUIL & VALT.



## SKI TOURING

Grab your skins, fasten your boots then, skis afoot, prepare to tackle the powdery itineraries that radiate out between Cervinia and Valtourmenche.

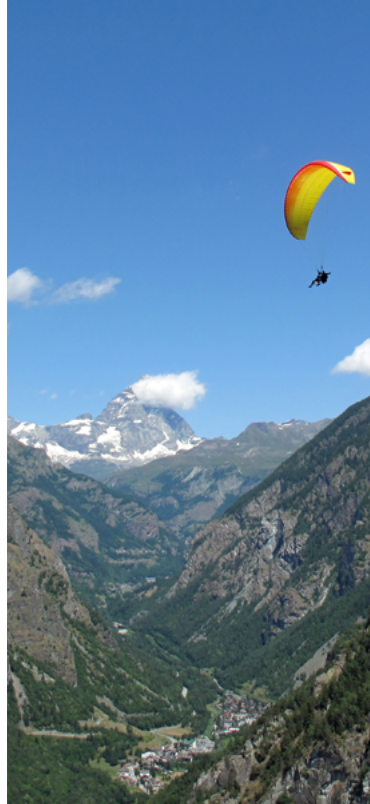
BREUIL & VALT.



## PARAGLIDING

It's one of those indescribable feelings that gives you butterflies in your tummy and makes your eyes sparkle: ready to paraglide over the Matterhorn?

BREUIL & VALT.



## OUTDOOR ICE-SKATING

Imagine skating and being kissed by snowflakes on a romantic natural rink that illuminates in a thousand muffled lights at sunset...

BREUIL-CERVINIA

## HORSE RIDING

Pony games, mounted treasure hunts but also pony trekking and horse-riding lessons – a galloping holiday awaits you at the riding school!

BREUIL-CERVINIA

## ADVENTURE PARK

It's your turn fearless explorer: at Cervinia adventures grow on trees among suspended platforms, daring zip lines and wobbly walkways...

BREUIL-CERVINIA



## ANGLING

Maen fishing reserve, Marmore stream, Lakes Goillet and Cignana: whether you prefer quiet lake angling or more adventurous stream fishing, you won't be disappointed!

BREUIL & VALT.



## GORBEILLON VIA FERRATA

This is one of the most awesome ferratas in the Aosta Valley, but how couldn't it be? Rope bridges, aerial walks - start training because it's truly a must!

VALTOURNENCHE



## NORDIC WALKING

This is one of the cheapest and most enjoyable ways of exploring the valley, but it's also good for you: how about going for a Nordic walk in the mountains?

BREUIL & VALT.

## GOLF

Not even marmots can resist the charm of golf: that's why you may spot some on Cervinia's eighteen-hole course which has lent the foot of the Matterhorn a green hue for over half a century.

BREUIL-CERVINIA



## OTHER SPORTING ACTIVITIES

If you like to keep fit or try new pursuits while on holiday, you'll find an endless choice of sports to try out at Cervinia and Valtourneche, including tennis, yoga and crazy golf.



# DELICIOUS INSPIRATION

## DESIRE FOR FLAVOUR

It's difficult to tire of admiring the Matterhorn: even on seeing it for the millionth time you'll spot a detail that escaped you, like that combination of colours you've never encountered before. It will surprise you every time you see it, even more so when it's... on your plate!

The Matterhorn panettone, shaped just like the mountain itself and smelling of walnuts and candid fruit, the delicate flavour of honey and aroma of rye flour. Its burnished and vaporous golden waves create an unforgettable delicacy - like its muse.

Matterhorn-shaped »  
panettone



# HISTORY ROLLS ON

## A VALLEY OF CONQUESTS

Inhabited as far back in Neolithic times, Valtournenche has for long centuries been the scene of remarkable history. It's a crossroads of people and a land of trade, among pointed peaks and luxuriant slopes, it bears witness to ancient eras - the Roman times and Middle Ages, but also more recent ages dominated by brave men and daring engineering feats.

So you can find museums and exhibitions dedicated to the origins of mountaineering that interweave with a bygone rural legacy comprised of pastoral buildings, religious buildings and lively expressions of folklore...

Alpine guides »  
Cervinia



## A MOUNTAIN OF WORK, A SMALL MUSEUM AT PLATEAU ROSA

How can you manage to stroll in the sky? Discover how at this fascinating museum with its exhibits of glorious feats accomplished by those who lifted cable cars into the clouds.

BREUIL-CERVINIA



## PIAZZETTA DELLE GUIDE AND LUIGI AMEDEO DI SAVOIA HUT

The latter is a legendary hut in Cervinia in which great mountaineering names have found shelter. The former is a square in Valtournenche commemorating the conquest of the Matterhorn.

BREUIL & VALT.

## CHURCHES AND CHAPELS

Churches with pointed bell towers, mysterious crypts and cherished sacred art. There are tiny chapels clinging to the rock, elegant altars and processions that go far back in time...

BREUIL & VALT.



## RASCARD D'ENTREVES AND MAISON DE L'ALPAGE

It's not simply a rascard but a piece of history, a bastion of bygone architecture. Inside you'll find a well stocked museum dedicated to Alpine agro-pastoral life, in addition to the Tourist Office.

VALTOURNENCHE

## BIRTH PLACE OF LUIGI CARREL

A small house and a microscopic village conceal the origins of a huge man, an Alpine guide whose name continues to echo on the feared Furggen ridge.

VALTOURNENCHE



## TRADITIONAL FOLK COSTUMES

One is from Cervinia, designed by Luciana Albano in 1950 and worn on social occasions, even by important figures; the other is from Valtournenche and revived thanks to a collection of vintage photographs.

BREUIL & VALT.

# NO ADULTS ALLOWED

BORING HOLIDAY? NO, THANKS!

The mountains are the best playground ever: you can spend hours running freely around grassy meadows, under a blue sky and on soft blankets of snow. Like at Valtournenche Summer Park where you'll have endless fun on the snow tubing track, inner tubes and inflatables, or at Cervinia's Kid Zone, with its slides, houses and forts both in summer and winter.

Still not enough? There's more fun to be had on the swings, seesaws and inclusive games at Champlève and at Cretaz, or at Maison de l'Alpage, with fantastic workshops teaching about the world of cattle, flowers and Alpine life!

Bok, the mascot »





Panoramic helicopter flight

# IN THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME

Get ready to make an extraordinary holiday even more out of the ordinary...



## TROFEO MEZZALAMA

A legendary international ski mountaineering race where great athletes tackle crevasses, glaciers and awesome gradients.

APRIL

## CERVINO CINEMOUNTAIN

One of the top international events in the high mountains sector, this annual film festival features films, shows and publishing presentations.

JULY - AUGUST



## VALTOURNENCHE DÉSARPA

Music, dancing and parades accompany the cows on their traditional descent from the Alpine pastures; it's one of the most heartfelt and popular celebrations in the Aosta Valley.

SEPTEMBER



## WORLD CUP: DOWNHILL SKIING AND SNOWBOARDING

The world's best riders compete on jumps, banks and steps while ski experts challenge one another to hair-raising descents and super-Gs.

DECEMBER

Valle d'Aosta  
EVENTS

Download the app!







Plateau Rosa Cableway



**ROMAN AND MEDIEVAL AOSTA**

The pulsing heart of the Aosta Valley enraptures with its remains steeped in timeless charm: imposing stone walls, thousand-year-old theatres, medieval towers...

AOSTA

TORGNON

ANTEY-SAINT-ANDRÉ

LA MAGDELEINE

CHAMOIS

VALTOURNENCHE

BREUIL-CERVINIA



**THE OTHER FACE OF THE MATTERHORN AT ZERMATT**

What does the Matterhorn look like from Switzerland? Find out by taking a trip to Zermatt, it's also an excellent chance to explore the Matterhorn Ski Paradise ski area.



**CHAMOIS: PEARL OF THE ALPS**

The highest municipality in the Aosta Valley: an enchanting place wholly immersed in nature. As it can only be reached on foot or by cable car it's an example of environmental sustainability and soft mobility.

Visuals: VisaMultimedia.com  
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